People

Management team

Ken Haas, CEO
Michael Sherman, exec VP R&D
Dan Rosenthal, CTO
Michael Hollars, COO
Daniel Filip, VP Software
Charles K. Sholtz, VP Intellectual Property

Ken Haas, CEO, has 20 years of executive management experience in biotechnology and other high-technology companies. Ken was most recently CEO of startup Aulix Biopharma, which developed a disease pathway-specific engine for accelerating discovery of novel, small molecule therapeutics. Prior to that, Ken served for 9 years as CEO of publicly-traded IntelliCorp (formerly IntelliGenetics, one of the world's first bioinformatics companies). Ken led IntelliCorp in raising public and private funds in excess of $60 million and in developing strategic partnerships with a variety of top tier firms, including SAP, IBM and Deloitte Consulting. Earlier in his career, Ken was a practicing attorney in the business and technology group of Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe. He earned his A.B. from Harvard College, M.A. from the University of Sussex, holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School and graduated from Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program.

Michael Sherman, executive VP of R & D, (a.k.a. Sherm) was an executive, software architect, and developer in the engineering software industry for over 20 years prior to co-founding Protein Mechanics. With Dan Rosenthal, Sherm founded Symbolic Dynamics, Inc. (SD) and served as its President and chief software architect for over a decade. SD developed groundbreaking physics-based mechanical computer aided design (MCAD) software for the aerospace and mechanical engineering industries. Its flagship multibody dynamics engine SD/FAST was acquired by startup Rasna Corp. which was later acquired by Parametric Technology Corp. (PTC) makers of Pro/Engineer, the dominant MCAD product of its time. In a long-term collaboration with PTC, Sherm served as the chief software architect for PTC's Pro/Mechanica Motion and Pro/Mechanism computational engines, which are now in routine use at thousands of industrial sites for the design of mechanical products through predictive physical simulation. Sherm built and managed all of SD's business activities including direct sales and distributor arrangements for SD/FAST, and short- and long-term alliances with several companies including PTC, Northrop, Hughes Aircraft, and Ford Motor Co. Earlier in his career, Sherm worked in technical management and as an operating system developer at supercomputer startup Elxsi, and as a software project leader at Hewlett Packard. Sherm holds a B.S. in Computer Science from UC Berkeley.

Dan Rosenthal, Chief Technical Officer, has been a researcher, technical leader and developer in the engineering software industry for over 20 years. He is a recognized world authority in the field of simulation of physical systems, particularly the development of novel and efficient algorithms for simulating the kinematics and dynamics of large-scale multibody systems. Dan co-founded Symbolic Dynamics (SD,

see above) with Michael Sherman, and served as its CTO for over a decade, developing groundbreaking, efficient mathematical algorithms which revolutionized the process by which mechanical products are engineered. His algorithms form the basis of SD's flagship product SD/FAST, and the physics-based predictive simulation engines for Parametric Technology Corporation's Pro/Mechanica Motion and Pro/Mechanism products, the leading mechanical multibody simulation codes in industrial use today. Dan served as the key technical collaborator in all of SD's successful alliances and now guides algorithm development for the mathematical core of Protein Mechanics' Imagiro$^{(R)}$ platform. Prior to co-founding Protein Mechanics, Dan's earlier career includes positions at Hughes Aircraft, Lawrence Livermore National Labs, and NASA JPL. Dan earned a Ph.D. in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Stanford University, and holds an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from UC Berkeley.

Michael Hollars, Chief Operating Officer, has held a breadth of positions in aerospace and software companies over the past 25 years, including engineering R&D, product management, product marketing, quality assurance and scientific validation. Mike was an integral part of the Symbolic Dynamics (SD) team, along with Protein Mechanics co-founders Michael Sherman and Dan Rosenthal, as they developed SD's mechanical computer aided engineering software for the aerospace and mechanical engineering industries. Mike led SD's scientific validation efforts prior to the acquisition of SD's multibody dynamics engine by Rasna Corp. As well, Mike was the Product Manager for Rasna's Mechanica Motion product during its first 4 years of development. He also has experience in biomedical engineering, has pre-medical school training, and has operated his own engineering, software, and marketing consulting services business. Prior to co-founding Protein Mechanics, Mike directed over 20 engineers, consultants, and managers in the Quality Assurance department of Parametric Technology, as well as in roles at Ford Aerospace and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratories. Mike has earned a Ph.D. in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Stanford University, and an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from M.I.T.

Daniel Filip, Vice President of Software, has been a researcher, developer, and recognized authority in the areas of computational geometry, computer graphics, solid modeling, finite elements, and object oriented programming for 20 years. Prior to co-founding Protein Mechanics, Daniel worked at the General Motors and then joined a series of start-up software companies, including Automation Technology Products and Rasna Corporation, where he helped pioneer many breakthroughs in computational geometry, finite elements and design optimization. Parametric Technology Corporation acquired Rasna Corporation in 1995, where Daniel held the position of Technology Vice President and worked in the area of computational geometry and object oriented programming. Daniel holds an M.S. in Computer Science from UC Berkeley.

Charles K. Sholtz, Vice President of Intellectual Property, has worked in the area of bioscience in various capacities for over 20 years. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Chuck was a patent agent at the Law Offices of Peter Dehlinger. Chuck then worked in the patent department at Affymax, before joining Xenogen Corporation as Director of Intellectual Property to form Xenogen's legal/IP group. While at Xenogen, he developed and implemented Xenogen's Intellectual Property strategy and participated in the acquisition by Xenogen of DNX Transgenic Sciences and Genome Systems. Chuck has had extensive experience in patent prosecution and the drafting and negotiation of license agreements. Chuck has earned undergraduate degrees in Engineering and Cellular/Molecular Biology from the University of Michigan, a Masters degree in Physiology from Yale University, a Ph.D., in Neurosciences from Stanford University, and a JD from Santa Clara University.

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